

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application in view of this response. Claims 55-103 have been canceled, and claims 104-126 have been added. Claims 104, 108, and 126 are independent claims. Claims 104-126 are currently pending in the present application.

ELECTION RESTRICTIONS

On page 2 of the December 3, 2004, Office Action, the Examiner alleges that claims 55-103, added by way of Applicants previous response, present only claims drawn to a non-elected invention. Subsequently, the Examiner submits that these claims (55-103) must be withdrawn from the present application, thus leaving Applicants with no independent claims. As such, the Examiner has held Applicants previous response non-responsive (MPEP Section 821.03).

In response to the Examiner's holding of Applicants response non-responsive, Applicants hereby submit claims 104-126, which are directed to the originally elected invention, and respectfully assert that the present application now includes 3 independent claims and thus avoids abandonment.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner examine claims 104 – 126.

CONCLUSION

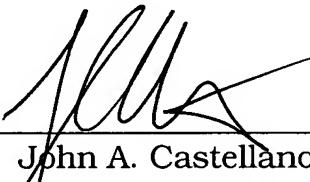
In view of above remarks, reconsideration of the outstanding rejection, allowance of all claims currently pending, is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone Andrew M. Waxman, Reg. No. 56,007, at the number listed below.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-0750 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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